

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 ~~541~~ 1. A computer program product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable  
2 medium, comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:  
3 identify a page layout template having a plurality of dimensions including one or  
4 more variable dimensions, the template lacking a size specification for the variable  
5 dimensions and including at least one box having adjustable metrics in the variable  
6 dimensions specifying at least one of a size of the box and a distance from the box to any  
7 other boxes;  
8 fix a size for each variable dimension of the template; and  
9 adjust the metrics of the box based on the sizes.

1 2. The computer program product of claim 1, wherein the page layout template  
2 includes a plurality of boxes having a hierarchical relationship, and wherein the instructions  
3 operable to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause  
4 a programmable processor to:  
5 adjust the metrics of the boxes in hierarchical order. .

1 3. The computer program product of claim 2, wherein the instructions operable  
2 to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause a  
3 programmable processor to:  
4 adjust the metrics of the boxes independently in each dimension. .

1 4. The computer program product of claim 2, wherein the instructions operable  
2 to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause a  
3 programmable processor to:  
4 adjust the metrics of the boxes, first in one dimension, and then in another dimension.

1 5. The computer program product of claim 4, further comprising instructions  
2 operable to cause a programmable processor to:

3 terminate adjusting of a particular box and its child boxes in a given dimension at a  
4 hierarchical layer when the particular box has a synthesized size in the given dimension. .

1 6. The computer program product of claim 5, further comprising instructions  
2 operable to cause a programmable processor to:  
3 flow content into the boxes. .

1 7. A method, comprising:  
2 identifying a page layout template having a plurality of dimensions including one or  
3 more variable dimensions, the template lacking a size specification for the variable  
4 dimensions and including at least one box having adjustable metrics in the variable  
5 dimensions specifying at least one of a size of the box and a distance from the box to any  
6 other boxes;  
7 fixing a size for each variable dimension of the template; and  
8 adjusting the metrics of the box based on the sizes. .

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the page layout template includes a plurality  
2 of boxes having a hierarchical relationship, and wherein the adjusting step comprises:  
3 adjusting the metrics of the boxes in hierarchical order. .

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the adjusting step comprises:  
2 adjusting the metrics of the boxes independently in each dimension. .

1 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the adjusting step comprises:  
2 adjusting the metrics of the boxes, first in the one dimension, and then in another  
3 dimension. .

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:  
2 terminating adjusting of a particular box and its child boxes in a given dimension at a  
3 hierarchical layer when the particular box has a synthesized size in the given dimension. .

1 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
2 flowing content into the boxes. .